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City of Fackson

JERRY GIST MAYOR

October 14, 2009

Julius Genachowski, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing to express my concern about the FCC's upcoming announcement on network neutrality. Heavily regulating wireless networks will reduce investment in Jackson, Tennessee and cut into job growth – two issues that affect my city deeply. My community is blessed to have four competitive landline service providers in Jackson Energy Authority, Charter Communications, AT&T, and Aeneas Internet and Telephone. In addition, we have a vibrant wireless market with 3g services offered by AT&T, Sprint, and Verizon.

The rapid rise of the competitive landline and wireless markets in Jackson, Tennessee is a great success story. Nearly all residents and businesses have access to advanced wireless phones and networks, while the strong, competitive market keeps bringing new innovation and better value. Free market forces and investment are the reason for the rapid growth of this competitive market. Consequently, it is imperative that the FCC retain the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship that has built the robust wireless and online networks we have today.

The FCC can take another step by avoiding network neutrality regulation of broadband deployment. Jackson, Tennessee is a model community for the type of investment required to bring broadband and the associated well-paying local jobs and technology to all areas of the nation.

I think we all agree that a fair and open Internet is important, but your proposed regulations on traditional and wireless broadband service will shut off further investment in my community, costing us jobs and investment. Our thriving technology, business, and industrial community needs the opportunity to continue growing without unnecessary new regulations.

I thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

yayor Jerry Gist itv of Jackson